

Applicant: SHOWA CORPORATION
Serial Number: 10/636119
Attorney Docket: 13546

Page 1



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SHOWA CORPORATION
Serial Number: 10/636119
Filed: 08/07/03
For: BOTTOM VALVE APPARATUS OF HYDRAULIC SHOCK ABSORBER
Attorney Docket Number: 13546

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 24, 2004

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated February 24, 2004 having a one-month shortened statutory period for reply. This response is timely filed on March 24, 2004.

Applicant elects Species I, Figures 1-6 without traverse. Claims 1-10 are elected without traverse. Claims 1 and 5 are generic to all three species. Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are generic to Species I and II. Claims 9-10 are directed toward Species I.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please withdraw claims 11-18 as shown in the section entitled Claim Amendments.